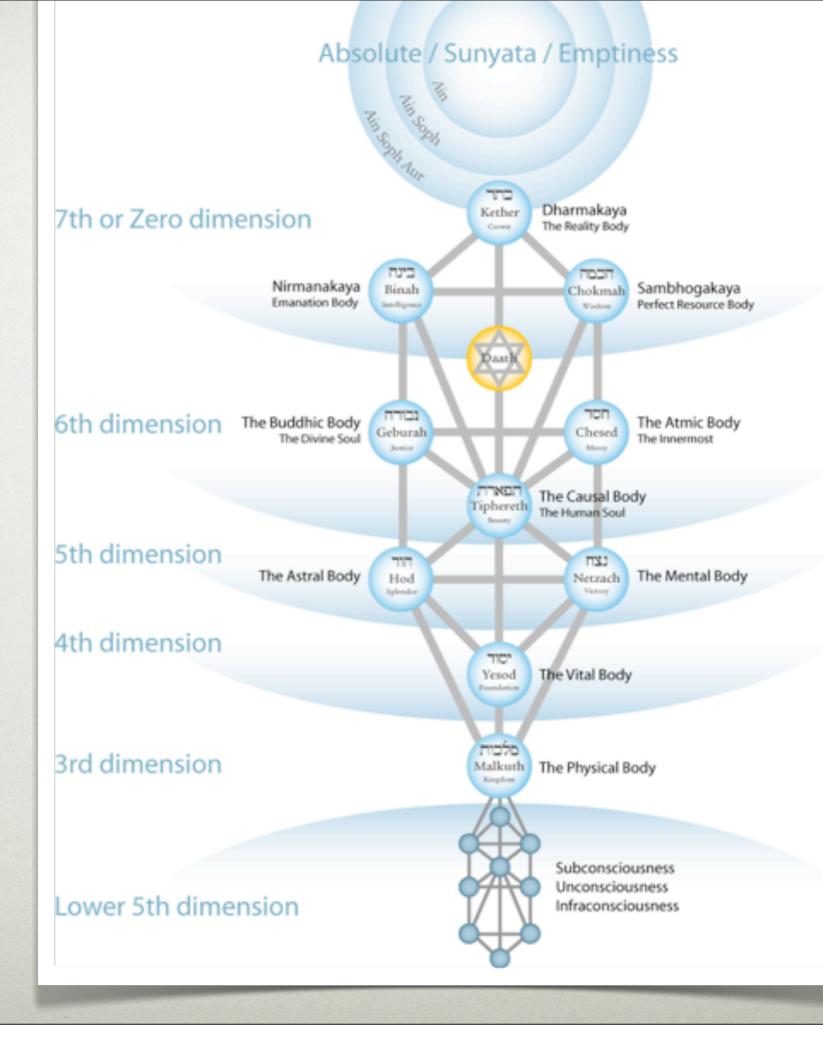


SAMSARA AND NIRVANA

There are two truths.

There are two truths.



"Those who do not understand emptiness will fail to achieve liberation. Thus, ignorant beings wander helplessly in the prison of the six cyclic existences."

- Nagarjuna

samsara: "to flow on"; cyclic existence

samsara: "to flow on"; cyclic existence

nirvana: "cessation"; bliss, freedom

"Samsara is your mind's deluded form."

- Padmasambhava, Descending with the View from Above

"Samsara, 'circling,' is to spin from one place to another. Nirvana is to have cut through this circling."

- Padmasambhava, The Cycle of Vital Points



Nidāna: cause, foundation, source or origin





Ignorance

Sanskrit: avidya Tibetan: marigpa Greek: ἀγνωσία

"Ignorance gives rise to external form. Purged of ignorance, samsara becomes nirvana."

- Hevajra-tantra

"There is no ease within samsara's realms; ease is found in the awakened state. "There is no ease within samsara's realms; ease is found in the awakened state.

"Through effort this awakened state is never gained; it is not achieved with effort, but by letting be and never striving." "There is no ease within samsara's realms; ease is found in the awakened state.

"Through effort this awakened state is never gained; it is not achieved with effort, but by letting be and never striving."

- Padmasambhava





"Your attempts to cure your miseries have brought no ease; you are at ease by loosely letting be.



"Your attempts to cure your miseries have brought no ease; you are at ease by loosely letting be. "You find no happiness from craving; only when you have let go of craving."



"Your attempts to cure your miseries have brought no ease; you are at ease by loosely letting be. "You find no happiness from craving; only when you have let go of craving."



- Padmasambhava

"Samsara - our conditioned existence in the perpetual cycle of habitual tendencies — and nirvana, genuine freedom from such an existence, are nothing but different manifestations of a basic continuum. So this continuity of consciousness is always present. This is the meaning of tantra. "Samsara - our conditioned existence in the perpetual cycle of habitual tendencies — and nirvana, genuine freedom from such an existence, are nothing but different manifestations of a basic continuum. So this continuity of consciousness is always present. This is the meaning of tantra.

"According to Buddhist practice, there are three stages or steps. The initial stage is to reduce attachment towards life. The second stage is the elimination of desire and attachment to this samsara. Then in the third stage, self-cherishing is eliminated." "Samsara - our conditioned existence in the perpetual cycle of habitual tendencies — and nirvana, genuine freedom from such an existence, are nothing but different manifestations of a basic continuum. So this continuity of consciousness is always present. This is the meaning of tantra.

"According to Buddhist practice, there are three stages or steps. The initial stage is to reduce attachment towards life. The second stage is the elimination of desire and attachment to this samsara. Then in the third stage, self-cherishing is eliminated."

- The 14th Dalai Lama